Statement

	Number of cases						
	Number of cases reported	Number of cases canclled	Number of cases untraced	Nember of cases ended in Conviction	Acquit-tal	Pending trial	Pending investi-gation
1994	38224	1562	13740	2381	716	18917	908
1995	47687	1455	16300	2847	348	20089	6648

Nuclear test by China

1740. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China again conducted an underground nuclear test on June 7, 1996, announcing its intention to carry out yet another nuclear-test by September, 1996; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) (a) Yes, Sir. China conducted a nuclear test on 8 June 1996. China has also indicated that it will conduct another test in September 1996.

(b) Government has expressed its dismay at recent nuclear tests carried out by some nuclear weapon states. These represent a setback to the cause of nuclear disarmament, on which India has taken a consistent and principled position.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

1741. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
SHRI ASHOK MITRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of freedom fighters who are in receipt of political pension from the Union Government;

(b) the number of pension applications that are still pending; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for reviewing the procedure of processing applications so that genuine political sufferers are not kept waiting for an indefinite period?

THE MINISTE OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) From the inception of the scheme, 1,62,844 persons have been sanctioned pension from the Central Revenues.

(b) All timely applications received for grant of pension have been considered at least once and decisions communicated to the applicants. Agrieved with the decision of the Government regarding rejection of claims, the applicants keep on sending review applications/repesentations. If the applicants furnish some additional acceptable documentary evidence in support of their claims, such cases are reconsidered. However, as on 1.7.1996, 21 fresh claims received recently were pending.

(c) The Government of India do not propose to review the procedure of processing applications for grant of pension. The existing procedure is quite adquate for processing the applications.